

National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
**Langley Research Center**  
100 NASA Road  
Hampton, VA 23681-2199



February 17, 2011

Reply to Attn of: 141/Office of Chief Counsel

To: Distribution

From: Chief Counsel

Subject: Blanket Determination Regarding Attendance at the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) and Science & Technology Corporation (STC) President's Day Meeting and Reception with Congressman Rob Wittman and Scott Rigell at the Virginia Air & Space Center IMAX Theater on February 21, 2011, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The AIAA and STC are hosting a meeting and reception with local Hampton Roads Congressmen Rob Wittman and Scott Rigell at the Virginia Air & Space Center IMAX Theater on February 21, 2011, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Senior leaders and representatives from private industry, academia, and local, state, and federal government officials have been invited. Several NASA leaders and employees have been invited to attend the event. The purpose of the event is to allow community leaders to interact and discuss with Virginia Congressmen the outlook for Hampton Roads in the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress, including NASA's significant role in aeronautics, science, and exploration in the region. I have determined it to be in the best interest of the government for those invited NASA employees to attend this event in their official capacities and as representatives of NASA.

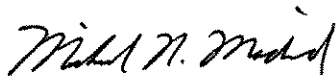
The reception will be a widely attended gathering attended by numerous federal, Commonwealth, and local government representatives, members of academia, and local business leaders. Approximately 100 people are expected to attend. NASA invitees will have the opportunity to further Agency programs and operations through meeting with key local public officials, local business leaders, Virginia Congressmen Wittman and Rigell, other federal leaders, and members of academia who have an interest in the outlook for Hampton Road's in the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress, including the outlook for NASA. The estimated value of an invitation to the reception, which includes food and beverages, is \$20.00 per person. In accordance with 5 C.F.R. §2635.204(g), and 14 C.F.R. §1207.103, I find that the event meets the definition of a widely attended gathering and in light of NASA's involvement in space and aeronautics research activity impacting the Hampton Roads community and Commonwealth, I conclude that NASA's interest in its employees attending this event outweighs any concern that attendance and accepting the food and beverage offered may, or may appear to, improperly influence any NASA personnel in the performance of their official duties.

Accordingly, NASA LaRC employees who have been invited to attend may accept free attendance at the event. They may also accept invitations for an accompanying spouse or guest.

NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect AIAA or STC are not covered in this determination and should seek from their local ethics counselor a determination pursuant to 5 CFR 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding their participation in these events.

NASA employees who are in non-career positions in which Executive Order 13490 requires signing an ethics pledge may only attend if they reimburse the sponsors the cost of the reception and mementos for themselves and any accompanying guest.

Questions about this determination may be addressed to Pete Polen at 757-864-3225.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael N. Madrid". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael N. Madrid  
Deputy DAEO



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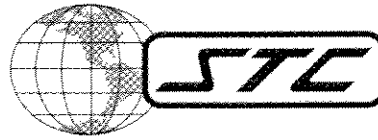
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## Presidents' Day Event with our Virginia Congressmen

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Hampton Roads Section and the Science & Technology Corporation are pleased to host a meeting with our local Congressional Representatives Rob Wittman and Scott Rigell. The Congressmen will discuss the:

### *"Outlook for Hampton Roads in the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress"*



**Rep. Rob Wittman**  
**1<sup>st</sup> District**



**Rep. Scott Rigell**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> District**

**Free and Open to the Public**

**DATE: February 21, 2011**

**TIME: Reception: 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm**

**Talks: 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm**

**PLACE: Virginia Air & Space Center  
IMAX Theater**

**No Reservations Required**